

**FIREFIGHTER/OPERATOR**

(Competitive Class)

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS**

The class of Firefighter/Operator comprises entrance level positions in the fire suppression division of fire department operations. Employees of this class receive training in and perform firefighting and fire suppression tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, performing rescue work, and driving and operating fire department vehicles. Employees of this class are also responsible for the maintenance of fire apparatus, fire department equipment, the fire station, and for completing records as assigned. Employees of this class perform duties under the supervision of and have work reviewed by a Fire Captain. This class reports to and ranks immediately below that of Fire Captain.

**EXAMPLES OF WORK**

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Trains for, performs, and maintains proficiency in firefighting and rescue tasks such as connecting, carrying, and operating hose lines; directing fire streams and agents; forcible entry; ventilation; using ladders and other equipment to aid in fighting fires and removing fire and accident victims to safety.

Operates or rides in fire apparatus to and from fire or emergency scene. Places apparatus at fire scene according to instructions of commanding officer. Communicates with dispatcher and fire vehicles using two-way radio. Ensures a timely response to the emergency scene by taking shortest route available using resources of maps or memory. Positions apparatus and connects hose lines necessary for fire suppression. Observes and responds to changes in fireground conditions. Locates fire source and extinguishes source first. Identifies and protects potential fire exposures from fire extension using direct streams or water curtains. Enters smoke-filled building using self-contained breathing apparatus. Locates and operates shut-off valves for gas or electricity in building to reduce hazards. Performs overhaul operations by locating and extinguishing hidden fires and hot spots and by removing burning mattresses, furniture, debris and charred waste from building. Tears down or shores up weak and dangerous structural components.

Learns and maintains proficiency in the location and purpose of all equipment. Cleans, dries, tests, inspects, maintains and properly secures any assigned firefighting equipment such as fire apparatus, communications equipment, hoses, nozzles, hand tools, self-contained breathing apparatus, turn-out gear, ladders, or related

equipment. Inspects and cleans emergency lighting and electrical equipment and performs periodic tests. Determines if firefighting equipment is operating properly and ready for service. Makes minor repairs to tools and equipment. Removes or replaces equipment on apparatus using checklist or knowledge of equipment. Tests communication equipment by performing daily radio checks. Performs routine maintenance by periodically flushing hydrants to remove rust and sediment. Participates in and trains for search and rescue operations in order to locate and remove trapped victims from buildings, vehicles or other confined spaces. Performs salvage tasks necessary to protect property from damage using covers, tarps, or other materials. Secures windows and doors and covers openings to protect structure. Constructs catch-alls and chutes to trap and dispose of water. Administers first aid, CPR, and emergency care to the public. Notifies dispatcher to call for emergency medical help when needed. Calms or comforts emotionally distraught victims, relatives, and spectators at emergency scenes.

Attends and participates in assigned training drills and physical development workouts. Observes and repeats procedures demonstrated by training or in-service training instructor. Reads and studies assigned material related to performance of work. Practices with apparatus and equipment under supervision to increase and maintain proficiency. Studies direct routes, location of streets, water mains, and hydrants in response area.

Trains for and maintains proficiency in the procedures for special emergencies such as HAZMAT leaks, high rise fires, building cave-ins, etc. Reads and recognizes HAZMAT symbols to identify flammable or hazardous materials.

Presents oneself in proper attire during a tour of duty. Performs tasks necessary for the proper maintenance of the station house and grounds such as cleaning floors, windows, driveways and sidewalks, changing linens, emptying trash cans, mowing grass and other minor maintenance duties. Inspects fire station and notifies officer in charge of needed repairs. Locks station doors and windows and secures valuable items from theft, vandalism, and damage at the station.

Conducts fire station tours and explains fire equipment and firefighting techniques to visiting public. Provides non-emergency services (e.g., frees children locked in rooms, etc.).

Completes any forms, records, or reports as required.

Performs related duties as assigned.

#### **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil

Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and of legal age.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Applicant must possess one of the following: high school diploma, high school equivalency certificate, high school transcript, affidavit from the issuing high school, associate's or bachelor's degree, or college transcript, any one of which must indicate that graduation has occurred or a degree awarded. A certification of completion shall not be sufficient to substitute for a diploma or equivalency certificate.

Must possess a valid driver's license.

Must not be less than 18 years of age.